

Applicant(s): Olivier Guaume, et al.
Serial No.: 10/028,099
Filed: December 21, 2001
For: METHOD FOR OPTIMIZATION OF TEMPORAL PERFORMANCES WITH RAPID CONVERGENCE
Art Unit: 2825
Examiner: Thompson, Annette M.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for optimization of temporal performance of ~~an~~ a network of electronic cells, ~~comprising with~~ a plurality of cells ~~which~~ that are taken from a library, ~~comprising~~ having several categories of cells, the cells of a same category all having the same functionality, which method comprises the following steps: [[

-]] accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and

[[

-]] identification of cells which have a ~~value of the~~ propagation time computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.

AS

2.. (currently amended) —A— ~~The method for optimization as claimed in of~~ claim 1, wherein a predetermined threshold value val_j is allocated to each cell of a rank, rank_j, of a same category, and wherein, when a cell of another rank, rank_i ≠ rank_j, identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, → rank_k, the value of → rank_k is at least equal to → rank_i + rank_j, if ~~the value of the~~ propagation time said computed propagation time value for said cell of rank_i rank_i is greater than the predetermined threshold value val_j of the said cell of rank_j rank_j.

3. (currently amended) —A— ~~The method for optimization as claimed in of~~ claim 2, wherein, when a cell of rank_i ≠ rank_j identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, → rank_k, the value of →

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rank_k is equal to the sum of rank_i and rank_j - i+j, if the value of the propagation time said computed propagation time value for said cell of rank i is within the predetermined threshold values val_i and val_{j+1} of the said cells of consecutive ranks, -j rank_i and -j+1 rank_{j+1}.

4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method for optimization as claimed in of claim 1, wherein execution of the a replacement step is subject to validation by the a user of the said method.

5. (currently amended) An integrated circuit comprising a network of cells, the temporal performances of which have been optimized by means of a method according to claim 1 accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.

6. (currently amended) A receiver device for radio signals, comprising an integrated circuit according to claim 5 having a network of cells, the temporal performances of which have been optimized by accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.